

Experience of General Electric Power Systems With the AGTSR Program

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As Dan indicated, I am speaking for Harold Miller. Harold attended the most recent selection process for the proposal evaluations, and is much more involved with this than I am. However, I can speak for GE Power Systems and heartily endorse what my colleagues have said before me.

Our coming into this program has probably been different from most other companies. We have a very large corporate research and development organization to lean on. So, we naturally tend to lean on them first. However, I think the up side is that GE Corporate performs a valuable interface function between the university research and us. Many of these projects fall nicely into the type of work that is done in our corporate research development center. The ATS project that we are working on is a subset of our GE corporate "H" program.

As you heard other speakers note yesterday, we are running very hard on a commercial basis, trying to make reality out of things that seem unimaginable 4 or 5 years ago. And some in GE still challenge it. So it is hard to pick your head up sometimes and say, "Well let's take a longer range view, let's add this research dimension." So we have GE Power Systems and GE Corporate involved in the selection of the proposals. We have an internal process that is similar to that described for Solar Turbines. We passed proposals out to the relevant managers of materials and process engineering and combustion engineering, and to the technical experts in these areas. They come back with their reviews, and Harold evaluated them and presented them during the selection process.

There is an obligation for any industry that's going to continue to be successful to train young engineers and show them what it is like to be in that industry, so they can see if that is their chosen career path. I think the AGTSR is a useful vehicle for this training, and GE will continue its participation.